



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------

09/050,796 04/12/99 SUTTON

M 16529-2-ZUS

EXAMINER

TM02/0716

MICHAEL E WOODS
TOWNSEND & TOWNSEND & CREW
TWO EMBARCADERO CENTER
8TH FLOOR
SAN FRANCISCO CA 94111

LEE, R.
ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2613
DATE MAILED:

07/16/01

H

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/050,796	Applicant(s) Sutton
	Examiner Richard Lee	Art Unit 2613



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

a) All b) Some* c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

- 14) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 16) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 17) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). 9
- 18) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 19) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 20) Other: _____

Art Unit: 2613

1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the "on/off switch" for the light source as claimed in claim 5; the "on/off switch" for the imager as claimed in claim 6; and the "second receiver" and "second monitor" as claimed in claim 14 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

2. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

3. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

The particular newly amended limitations to the claims such as (a) "a transmitter, coupled to said imager, for broadcasting said electronic image as a broadcast image on a particular one of a plurality of available broadcast channels" as claimed in claim 1; (b) "a transmitter, coupled to said video camera, for broadcasting said electronic image as a broadcast image at a broadcast channel selected from a plurality of channels wherein said broadcast channel is different for each said flashlight", and the "receiver for receiving said broadcast images from each of said flashlights on each said broadcast channel", as claimed in claim 11; (c) "broadcasting a series of real-time images with accompanying audio signals, from each of a plurality of flashlights at a different

Art Unit: 2613

broadcast frequency for each said flashlight”, and “receiving said series of real-time images and audio signals from a selected one of said plurality of flashlights as a received series at a remote receiver” as claimed in claim 12; and (d) “broadcasting a series of real-time images with accompanying audio signals from each said flashlight at a different channel”, “receiving a selected one of said series of real-time images and audio signals at a receiver”, “capturing said selected one of said series of real-time images” as claimed in claim 13 are not fully supported by the Specification.

4. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

For examples:

- (1) claim 1, line 18, line 20, “said image” shows multiple antecedent basis, respectively (see lines 5-6, 8);
- (2) claim 11, line 12, “said broadcast images” shows no clear antecedent basis;
- (3) claim 11, lines 15-16, “Said electronic images” shows no clear antecedent basis;
- (4) claim 11, line 16, “said images” shows no clear antecedent basis;
- (5) claim 12, line 5, “said flashlight” shows no clear antecedent basis and therefore “said” should be deleted;
- (6) claim 13, line 7, “said flashlight” shows no clear antecedent basis and therefore “said” should be deleted;

Art Unit: 2613

- (7) claim 13, line 17, line 19, claim 14, line 4, "said receiver" shows no clear antecedent basis, respectively;
- (8) claim 14, line 7, after "remote", "location" should be inserted for clarity;
- (9) claim 14, line 7, claim 15, line 3, "said security officer" shows no clear antecedent basis; and
- (10) claim 15, line 6, "said receiver" shows no clear antecedent basis.

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Camras of record (3,984,625) in view of Takahashi et al of record (5,305,033).

Camras discloses a portable video recording system employing camera and recording stations connected by a wireless link as shown in Figures 1 and 2, and substantially the same security system as claimed in claims 1-9, comprising substantially the same imager (260 of Figure 1), having an optical axis generally along the beam of light, for converting an image received along the optical axis into an electronic image, a transmitter (i.e., via 250 of Figure 1), coupled to the imager, for broadcasting the electronic image as a broadcast image on a particular one of a plurality of available broadcast channels, and a power cell (see column 2, lines 17-22), coupled to the imager and to the transmitter, for providing operating power; a remote unit (see Figure 1),

Art Unit: 2613

including a receiver (i.e., 251 of Figure 1) for receiving the broadcast image on the particular one broadcast channel and converting it back to the electronic image, and at least one of a monitor (252 of Figure 1) coupled to the receiver for displaying the electronic image and a recorder (270 of Figure 1), coupled to the receiver, for recording the electronic image in a format suitable for recovery of the image at a later time; the remote unit is installed in a passenger vehicle (see column 2, lines 28-32), and the recorder is installed in a locked compartment of the passenger vehicle (i.e., within the locked automobile, see column 2, lines 28-32); the light source further includes a microphone (265 of Figure 1), coupled to the transmitter, for converting sounds from a region near the light source into audio signals, wherein the transmitter broadcasts the audio signals as audio data and wherein the receiver converts the audio data into audio signals and wherein the monitor (252 of Figure 1) audibilizes the audio signals concurrent with display of the electronic image..

Camras does not particularly disclose, though, the followings:

(a) a handheld light source for selectively emitting a beam of light as claimed in claim 1;

and

(b) the light source includes an on/off switch and is operable independent of the imager and the imager includes an on/off switch and is operable independently of the light sources as claimed in claims 5 and 6.

Regarding (a) and (b), Takahashi et al discloses a combination camera and flashlight as shown in Figure 1 and teaches the conventional handheld light source (i.e., flashlight 1 of Figure

Art Unit: 2613

1) for selectively emitting a beam of light as well as the particular on/off switch (26 of Figure 1) for the light source (1 of Figure 1) that is operable independently of the imager (6 of Figure 1) and the on/off switch (28 of Figure 1) for the imager (6 of Figure 1) that is operable independently of the light source (see column 1). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the Camras and Takahashi et al references in front of him/her and the general knowledge of on/off switches in camera systems, would have had no difficulty in providing the combination video camera and flashlight system wherein on/off switches for both the light source and imager are being operated independently as taught by Takahashi et al for the simple camera system as shown in Figure 1 of Camras for the same well known flashlight/video camera combination operations as claimed.

7. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over the combination of Camras and Takahashi et al as applied to claims 1-9 in the above paragraph (6), and further in view of Walling of record (4,802,008).

The combination of Camras and Takahashi et al disclose substantially the same security system as above, but does not particularly disclose the rebroadcasting of the broadcast image and the audio data to other receivers by use of a repeater coupled to the receiver as claimed in claim 10. The particular use of repeaters for rebroadcasting video and audio signals to other receivers, in general, is old and well recognized in the art. For example, Walling discloses a satellite communications system for medical related images as shown in Figure 1A, and teaches the particular communications via RF transmissions of any number of trucks with the central

Art Unit: 2613

headquarters or to other trucks from any given location throughout the world (see column 3, lines 6-20) and the particular use of repeaters for translating the transmitted signal into a different frequency and then sending it to the central headquarters (see column 5, lines 50-65). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the Camras, Takahashi et al, and Walling references in front of him/her and the general knowledge of video and audio wireless transmission systems, would have had no difficulty in providing a repeater for translating transmitted signals to other receiving location(s) as taught by Walling as part of the receiver as shown in Figure 1 of Camras for the same well known benefits of providing the same transmitted video and audio signals to other receiving stations, such as police cars, so that such similar video and audio information may be viewed and shared by those interested for the same well known purposes as claimed.

8. Claims 11-13, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over the combination of Camras and Takahashi et al as applied to claims 1-9 in the above paragraph (6), and further in view of Saitoh of record (4,777,526).

The combination of Camras and Takahashi et al disclose substantially the same security system as above, further including narrating by a security officer the series of real-time images to provide a narration as part of the audio signals and recording the series of real time images and the narration (i.e., the microphone 265 of Figure 1 of Camras may pick up any audio sound, including narration by a security officer for recording at remote station by recorder 270 of Figure 1 of Camras).

Art Unit: 2613

The combination of Camras and Takahashi et al does not particularly disclose, though, equipping a team of securing officers with a plurality of flashlights, broadcasting the electronic image at a broadcast channel selected from a plurality of channels wherein the broadcast channel/frequency is different for each flashlight, a receiver for receiving the broadcast images from each of the flashlights on each broadcast channel and converting each broadcast image back to the electronic image, and capturing, displaying, and recording the received series of real time images as claimed in claims 11-13. However, Saitoh et al discloses a securing monitor system as shown in Figure 1 which includes a plurality of cameras (4a-4d) being used for monitoring desired areas of interest and wherein each camera is connected to broadcast channel/frequency different for each of the cameras (see column 4, lines 6-56). Saitoh et al also teaches the conventional receiver for receiving the broadcast images, a receiver for receiving the broadcast images from each of the cameras on each broadcast channel and converting each broadcast image back to the electronic image, and capturing, displaying, and recording the received series of real time images (see Figure 1). As such, it is considered obvious that the combination camera and flashlight of Takahashi et al may be provided in place of the general cameras of Saitoh et al so that a team of security officers may use the modified camera system. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the Camras, Takahashi et al, and Saitoh et al references in front of him/her and the general knowledge of camera system configurations, would have had no difficulty in providing the combination camera and flashlight of Takahashi et al in place of the general cameras of Saitoh et al with substantially the same if not the same different

Art Unit: 2613

broadcast frequency/channel capabilities as taught by Saitoh et al for each of the flashlight/camera combination in the transmission and reception schemes for the same well known multiple camera surveillance monitoring purposes as claimed.

9. Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over the combination of Camras, Takahashi et al, and Saitoh et al as applied to claims 1-9, 11-13, and 15 in the above paragraphs (6) and (8), and further in view of Walling of record (4,802,008).

The combination of Camras, Takahashi et al, and Saitoh et al discloses substantially the same security system as above, but does not particularly disclose the rebroadcasting of the series of real time images and audio signals by use of a repeater coupled to the receiver; receiving the rebroadcast series of real-time images and audio signals by use of a second receiver operated at a second remote location wherein a second team member of the security officer is located; and displaying to the second team member the series of real-time images by use of a second monitor coupled to the second receiver as claimed in claim 14. The particular use of repeaters for rebroadcasting video and audio signals to other receivers, in general, is old and well recognized in the art. For example, Walling discloses a satellite communications system for medical related images as shown in Figure 1A, and teaches the particular communications via RF transmissions of any number of trucks with the central headquarters or to other trucks from any given location throughout the world (see column 3, lines 6-20) and the particular use of repeaters for translating the transmitted signal into a different frequency and then sending it to the central headquarters (see column 5, lines 50-65). Further, the Examiner takes Official Notice that the particular use of

Art Unit: 2613

a second remote location with a second monitor within a security system is old and well recognized in the art. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the Camras, Takahashi et al, Saitoh et al, and Walling references in front of him/her and the general knowledge of video and audio wireless transmission systems, would have had no difficulty in providing a repeater for translating transmitted signals to other receiving location(s) as taught by Walling as part of the receiver as shown in Figure 1 of Camras for the same well known benefits of providing the same transmitted video and audio signals to other receiving stations, such as police cars, so that such similar video and audio information may be viewed and shared by those interested for the same well known purposes as claimed.

10. Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 308-9051, (for formal communications intended for entry)

Art Unit: 2613

Or:

(703) 308-6306 (for informal or draft communications, please label
"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive,
Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner
should be directed to Richard Lee whose telephone number is (703) 308-6612.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be
directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.



RICHARD LEE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Richard Lee/rl

7/12/01